

Disabled student awarded UCSI's Chancellor's Gold Medal

PETALING JAYA: A 23-year-old student proved that being wheelchair-bound was no impediment to his studies when he received the inaugural Chancellor's Gold Medal Award for his excellent academic results and outstanding personal attributes.

Tiew Kee Yee, 23, did a degree in accounting at UCSI University and on Saturday he was given the award at its convocation ceremony at its campus in Cheras.

He overcame tremendous challenges in his pursuit for an education despite being diagnosed with spinal muscular atrophy – a disease that causes weakening of body muscles.

He said that due to his physical limitations, he knew knowledge was his only choice to

ensure he had a competitive advantage.

"My family and friends supported me all the way, but the breakthrough happened when I realised that I had to change my negative attitude to a positive one," he said at the ceremony.

Having been shy and withdrawn during his schooling years, Tiew made an effort to participate in co-curricular activities while in university.

He said his study years made him change from being a person with low self-esteem to being one who is able to speak confidently.

The university in a statement said this was not the first time that Tiew has received an award. In 2009, he received the Tan Sri Ahmad Razali Merit Scholarship and was on the Dean's List for 2011 and 2012.



Tiew receiving the Chancellor's Gold Medal Award from UCSI University Chancellor Tan Sri Dr Abdul Rahman Arshad.